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SHELTER COVE HARBOUR PROUDLY HOSTS NEW JURIED ART FESTIVAL ON HILTON HEAD ISLAND MAY 23 – 24, 2009

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. (February 26, 2009) – An exciting new juried fine art show will debut Memorial Day weekend at Shelter Cove Harbour on Hilton Head Island, S.C. The Hilton Head Art Festival at Shelter Cove Harbour will take place May 23 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and May 24 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public.

This two-day event brings together an eclectic mix of the nation's most talented artists, as well as leading local and regional artists, who will collectively display over \$15 million in artwork. The artists were juried by an independent panel of expert judges and hand-selected from hundreds of applicants based on quality and diversity. All of the artwork on display is original and handmade in America.

"In addition to a local contingency of artists, we're looking forward to bringing a troupe of high-quality artists from around the country who have never exhibited in the Hilton Head area before," says festival promoter Howard Alan.

"We're delighted to host the Hilton Head Art Festival, an outstanding new festival that promises to delight area residents and visitors alike," said Bret Martin, vice president of operations at Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort on Hilton Head Island, S.C. "With its casual waterfront setting, Shelter Cove Harbour will serve as an ideal location to showcase original work by talented artists and artisans from around the country."

Howard Alan Events, the festival's promoter, stipulates that all artists are required to be on-site for the entire duration of the show. The artists will line Shelter Cove Harbour with their professional display booths, transforming the waterfront shopping and dining destination into a first-class outdoor art gallery. The public can meet and talk with the artists personally, asking questions about their art and inspiration. The artistic media represented include paintings, sculpture, photography, glass, wood, jewelry, collage and ceramics.

The Hilton Head Art Festival at Shelter Cove Harbour makes the arts accessible to a broad audience. Prices range from \$25 hand-designed earrings to \$20,000 metal sculptures. The event appeals to family and friends as a free and fun weekend activity, as well as serious art buyers interested in enhancing their collections.

Howard Alan comments, "In today's economy, people are not buying a new car or taking a big vacation, but they are still treating themselves to art."

Festival Hours: Saturday, May 23, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Sunday, May 24, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Location: Shelter Cove Harbour, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

Navigational address: William Hilton Parkway (Hwy. 278) at Shelter Cove Lane, Hilton Head Island, S.C. 29928

About Howard Alan Events, Ltd.:

Howard Alan Events, a Florida-based company, develops and presents art and craft shows throughout the country. For the past 25 years, Howard Alan Events has produced some of the nation's finest juried art shows, including more than 40 venues each year such as the Downtown Aspen Art Festival, Beaver Creek Art Festival, Downtown Naples Art Festival, Chicago Tribune Magnificent Mile Art Festival, and the Las Olas Art Fair. Several shows are ranked in the top 100 art fairs in the country by Sunshine Artist magazine. The group's founders personally select culture rich cities for their show locations providing a complete outdoor experience unmatched by other festivals. Each show is unique with works of both established and emerging artists.

About Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort and Shelter Cove Harbour:

A 2,000+ acre resort stretching from three miles of prime Atlantic Ocean beach to Shelter Cove Harbour's "sheltered" inlet adjoining the Intracoastal Waterway on Hilton Head Island, S.C., Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort is consistently recognized among the world's finest resorts. Shelter Cove Harbour & Marina, one of the finest ports of call on the East Coast, is the largest deep-water marina on Hilton Head Island. Shelter Cove features an impressive line-up of unique apparel and gift shops, restaurants and art galleries in a one-of-a-kind Mediterranean setting. In addition, Shelter Cove is home to a full variety of charters, nature cruises, dolphin tours, sport crabbing and fishing. Shelter Cove is located mid-island on the western side of Hwy. 278 at the entrance to Palmetto Dunes Resort. For more information, please call 800-827-3006 or visit www.palmettodunes.com online.

For additional information about The Hilton Head Art Festival at Shelter Cove Harbour and other Howard Alan Events art and craft shows across the country, visit www.artfestival.com or call 954-472-3755.

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Media Notes:

- Show producer Howard Alan and various artists are available for advance interviews.
- Photos of art festivals, participating artists and their work are available by contacting Misty Pinson at misty@artfestival.com or 954-341-2535 or 954-253-3856.